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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 07481.0043-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Ryuji FUNAYAMA et al.) Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 10/563,957) Examiner: Atiba O. Fitzpatrick
Filed: January 10, 2006)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING) Confirmation No.: 3605
APPARATUS, IMAGE)
PROCESSING METHOD, IMAGE)
PROCESSING PROGRAM, AND)
RECORDING MEDIUM)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

In the Office Action dated October 8, 2008, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following four groups of claims:

Group I, Claims 1-10, drawn to the observation vector extracting means for extracting projected coordinates of the predetermined feature point onto an image plane, from each of the frames of the motion picture;

Group II, Claims 11-22, drawn to estimating a motion of a predetermined feature point of a 3D object from a motion picture of the 3D object taken by a monocular camera, comprising extracting projected coordinates of the predetermined feature point from the processing target frame, as the observation vector;

Group III, Claims 23-26, 30-33, 37, and 39, drawn to a 3D structure of a center of a pupil on the facial picture is defined by a static parameter and a dynamic parameter, and wherein the gaze is determined by estimating the static parameter; and

Group IV, Claims 27-29, 34-36, 38, and 40, drawn to a 3D structure of the 3D object on the picture is defined by a rigid parameter and a non-rigid parameter wherein the motion of the 3D object is determined by estimating the rigid parameter and the non-rigid parameter.

Applicant elects to prosecute Group I, claims 1-10. Applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 23-29 also belong to Group I.

In addition to electing a single group of claims for prosecution in the application, Applicant has amended the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begins on page 18 of this paper.